1.0 million tonne or 0.6 million tonnes steel plant at the cost of US $ 630 or 730 million (approx.) depending upon the product-mix of the one million tonne capacity steel plant.

(iv) M/s. Srachi Group of Companies has signed a joint venture for setting up a pig iron plant in the State with an annual capacity of 1.3 lakh tonnes at an estimated cost of US $ 25 million.

(v) M/s. Rossette Ferrous Limited has signed an Agreement for setting up a steel plant for an annual capacity of 2.5 lakh tonnes at an estimated cost of US $ 80 million.

(vi) M/s. Refine Industries Limited has signed an Agreement for setting up of a steel plant for an annual capacity of 3 lakh tonnes at an estimated cost of US $ 95 million.

(c) and (d) The iron and steel industry has been exempted from the purview of compulsory licensing. State Government/an entrepreneur wanting to set up an iron or steel unit does not require approval of Government for industrial licence unless the plant is proposed to be located within 25 Kms. from the periphery of the standard urban area limits of a city having a population of more than 10 lakhs as per 1991 census.

Working of public sector as corporate groups

2962. SHRI SURESH KALMADI:
SHRI G Y. KRISHNAN:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have chalked out plans to bring public sector undertakings under it to work like a large corporate group thus exploiting each others' strengths ad synergies; and

(b) if so what are the salient features of the plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b) No plan has been drawn up to bring public sector undertakings in the iron and steel sector to work like a large corporate group. However, efforts have been made by the undertakings to identify areas where they could help one another and also cooperate in taking up projects or assignments in various fields.

Steel missing from the stock of IISCO

2963. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether steel worth lakhs of rupees was found missing from IISCO sometime back;

(b) if so, what is the estimated cost of the missing steel stock at IISCO;

(c) what is the outcome of the inquiry made by Government into the missing steel stock; and

(d) the action taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

मध्य प्रदेश में इस्पात संयंत्र की स्थापना

2964. **श्री मूलचन्द मीणा:** क्या इस्पात मंत्री वह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या मध्य प्रदेश में इस्पात संयंत्र स्थापित किए जाने संबंधी कोई प्रस्ताव केन्द्रीय सरकार के पास लम्बित हैं ;